

REMENDER • CRAIG • BOYD

DEADLY CLASS™



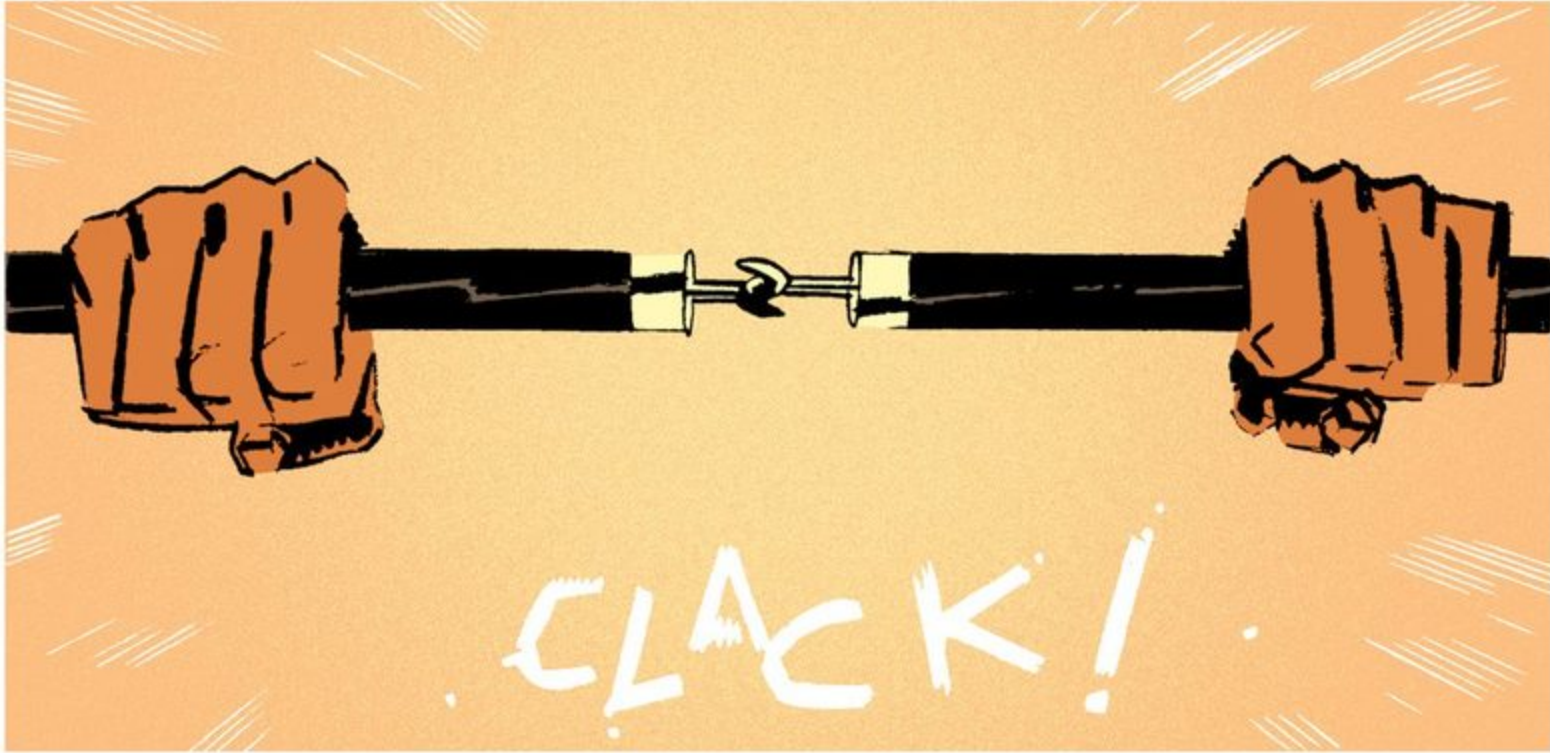
When homeless orphan Marcus Lopez joined Kings Dominion Atelier of the Deadly Arts, he knew trouble would be close behind. But against all odds, Marcus acquired a small circle of friends—though most of them are now dead. One of the few still alive is his girlfriend Maria, the deadly adopted daughter of a notorious Mexican drug lord. Together, they hid out in Mexico. But when the newest batch of Kings Dominion freshmen tracked them down, all their troubles came with them. There was only one course of action. Return to Kings Dominion, and bring it all tumbling down.

Shabnam and the rest of the Student Body Council, for example, would have preferred they stayed gone—and the Council is a dangerous enemy. Though each member has committed terrible acts in pursuit of their power, Stephen outshines them all in sheer ruthlessness, having murdered his boyfriend in cold blood just to fit in with a pack of bigoted, power-mad psychos. And when power is so bitterly won, it is not easily relinquished...

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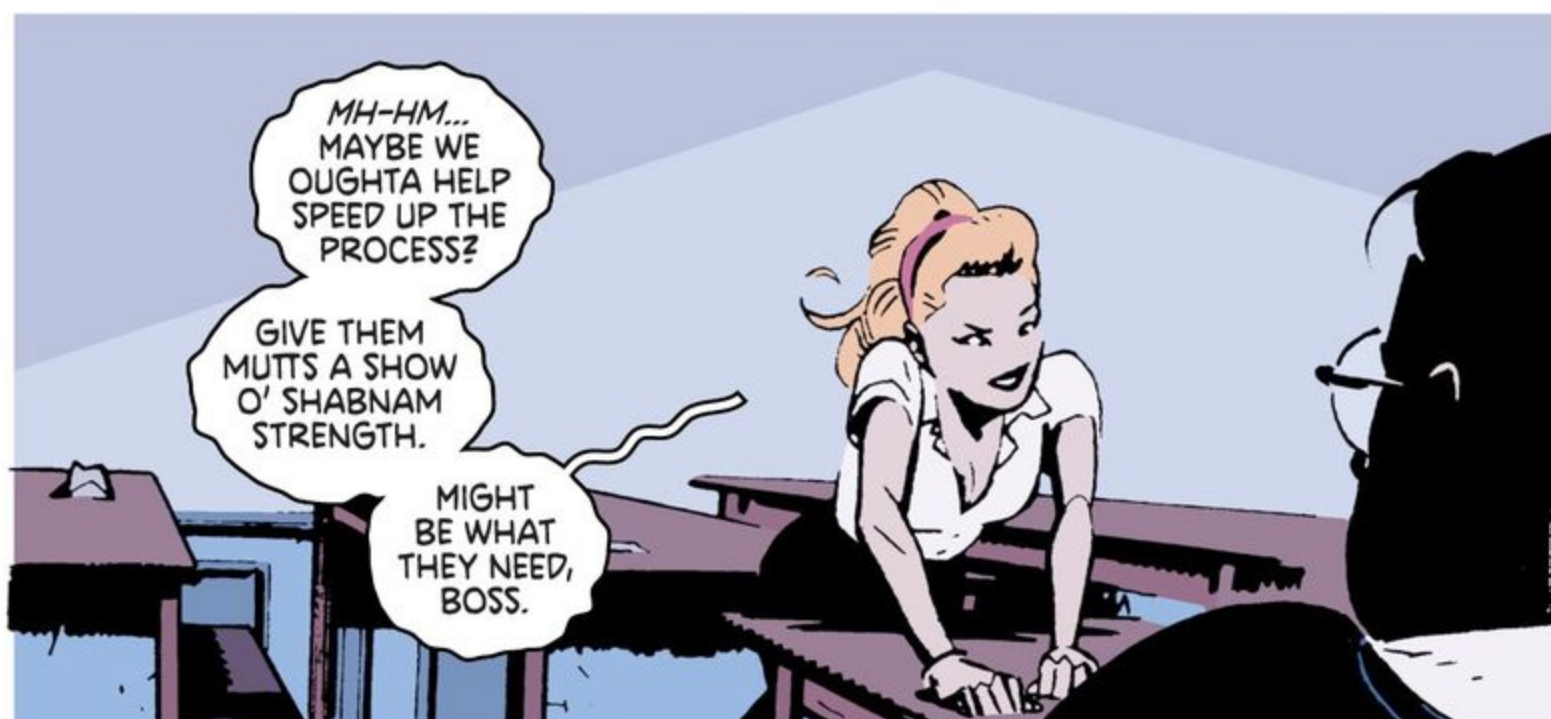
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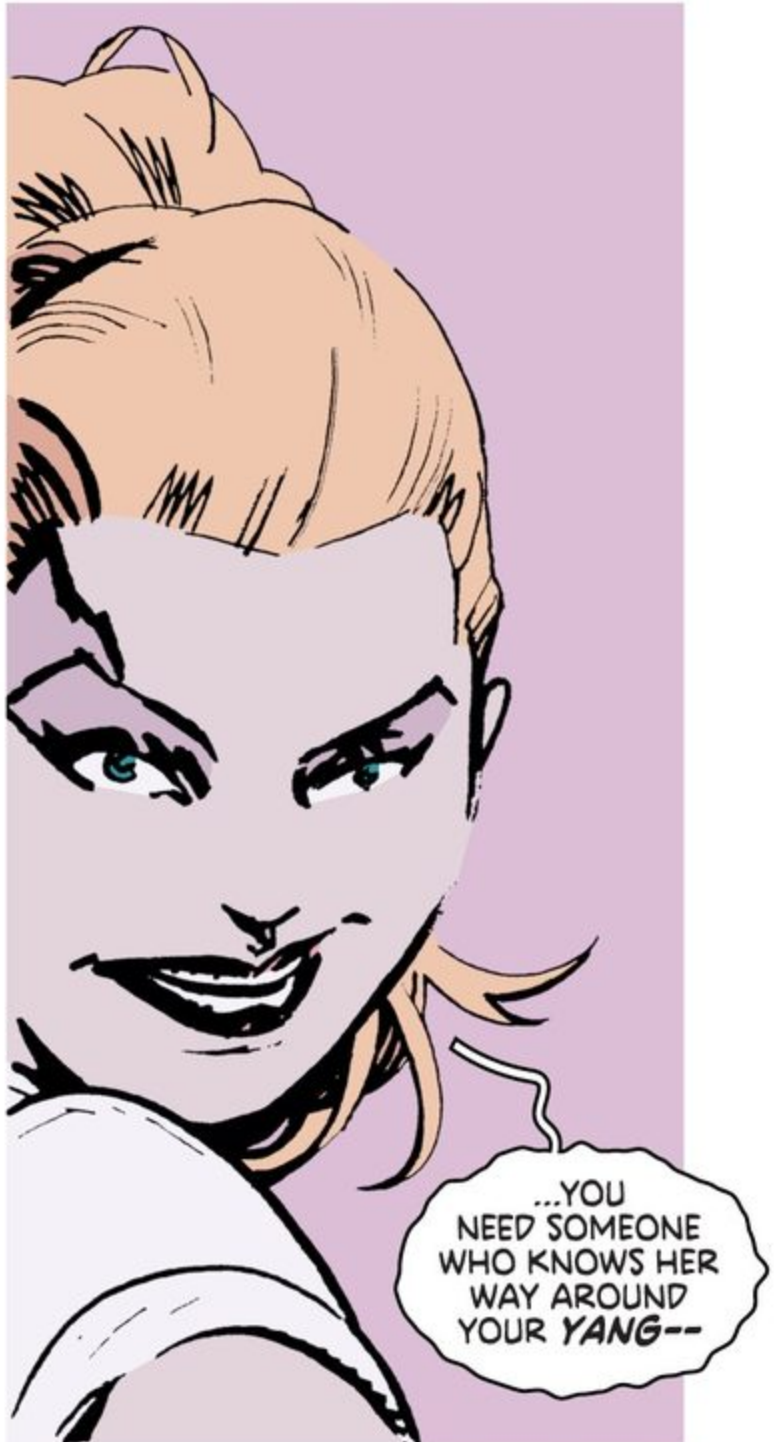






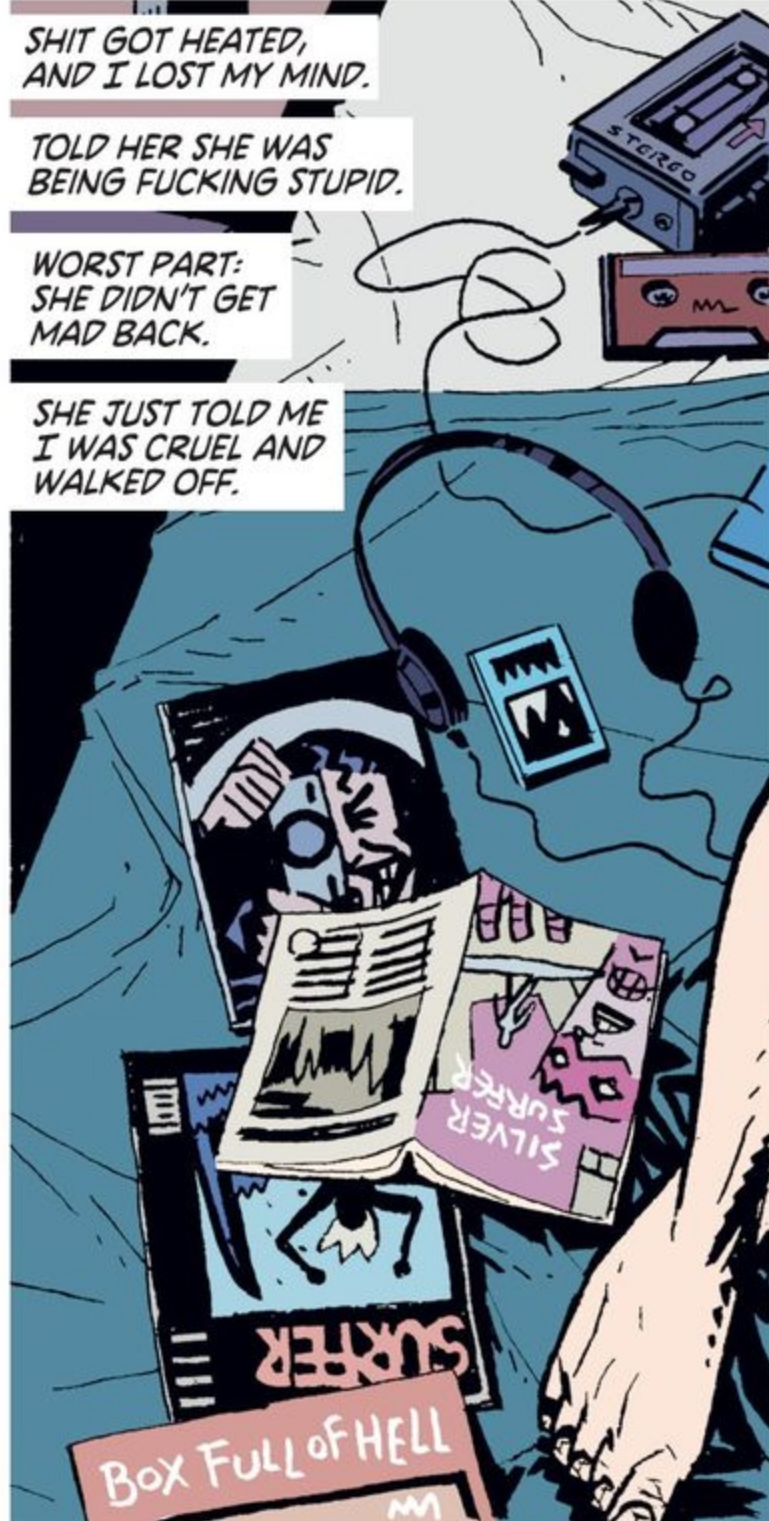












SHIT GOT HEATED,
AND I LOST MY MIND.

TOLD HER SHE WAS
BEING FUCKING STUPID.

WORST PART:
SHE DIDN'T GET
MAD BACK.

SHE JUST TOLD ME
I WAS CRUEL AND
WALKED OFF.



I'M THE GUY WHO YELLS WHEN HE'S
STRESSED OUT. WHO CAN'T KEEP HIS COOL.

IT'S ALL ON MY SLEEVE, ALL
THE TIME, AND I DON'T KNOW
WHY. I DON'T REMEMBER
PUTTING IT THERE.

BUT THERE IT IS. AN OPEN
STATION FOR ANYONE TO LISTEN
IN ON: RADIO FREE MARCUS.

BUT SHE DID TRUST ME,
DID COME BACK WITH
ME, AND IF I CAN'T
LEARN TO HIDE BETTER...



...WE'RE BOTH
GOING TO DIE.

HEARD YOU
WERE DOWN IN
MEXICO. YOU
DO ANY
SURFING?

I HIT
MAVERICKS
LAST WEEK BUT
THE FUCKIN'
WATER IS
GNARLY
COLD.



BEST SPOT IS
THE GOLD COAST,
SOUTH OF
BRISBANE, BACK
HOME--NOT TO BE
A SOOK BUT--
NOTHIN' HERE
GETS CLOSE.

STAYED
THERE FOR A
FEW YEARS
WHEN MUM WAS
WITH THE
NOTORIOUS
NOMADS.

YEAH,
SHE DID THEIR
BODY DISPOSALS--
COULDN'T VERY
WELL SETTLE INTO A
NORMAL ROUTINE--
SO, WE WERE
ALWAYS ON
THE LAM.



RAISED
ME IN AN
AIRSTREAM. UP
AN' DOWN THE
COAST. SURFED
EVERY DAY.

I GOT
EPILEPSY AND
SURFING IS THE
ONLY THING MOM
COULD FIND
TO KEEP ME
CALM.



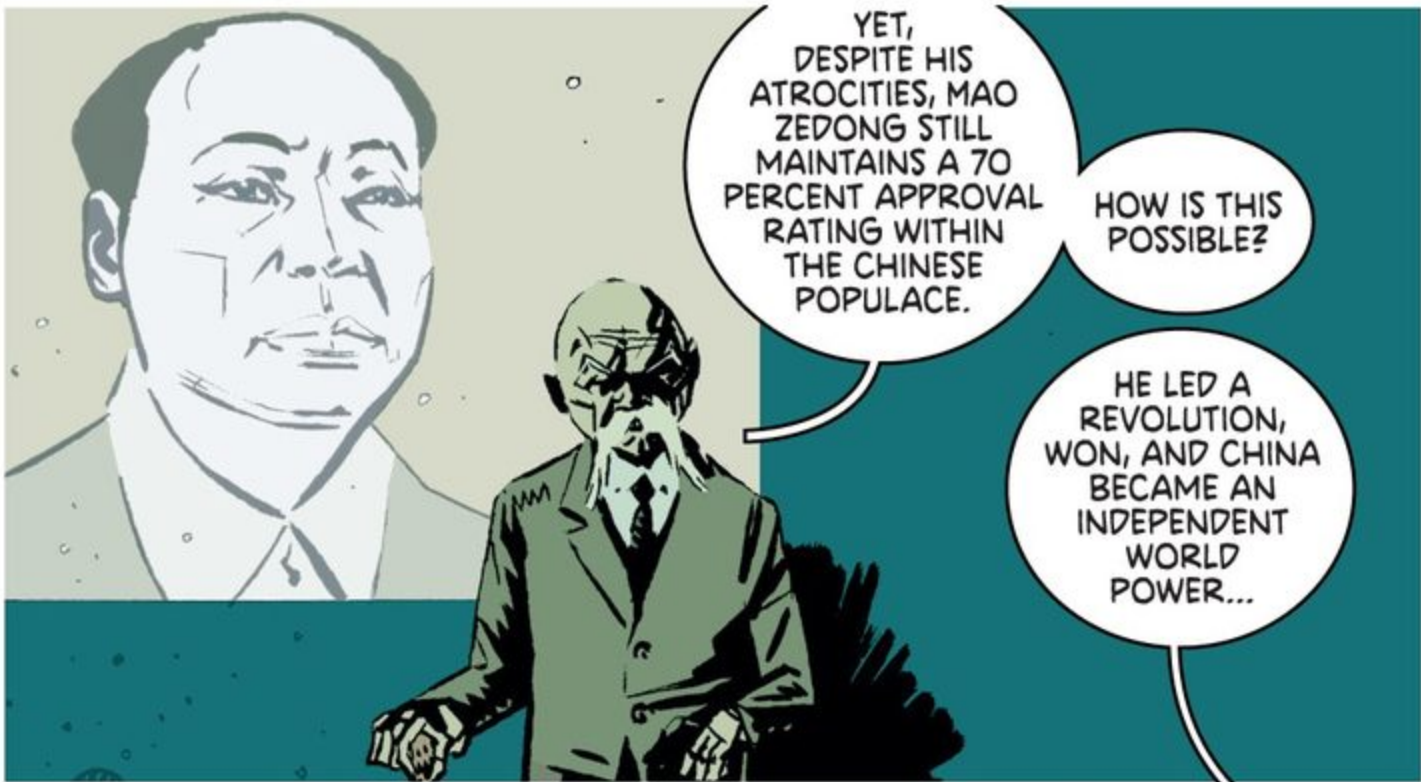
LAST YEAR
THINGS GOT...
MUCKED UP,
SO SHE SENT
ME HERE.

CAN'T
SAY I
LOVE
IT.

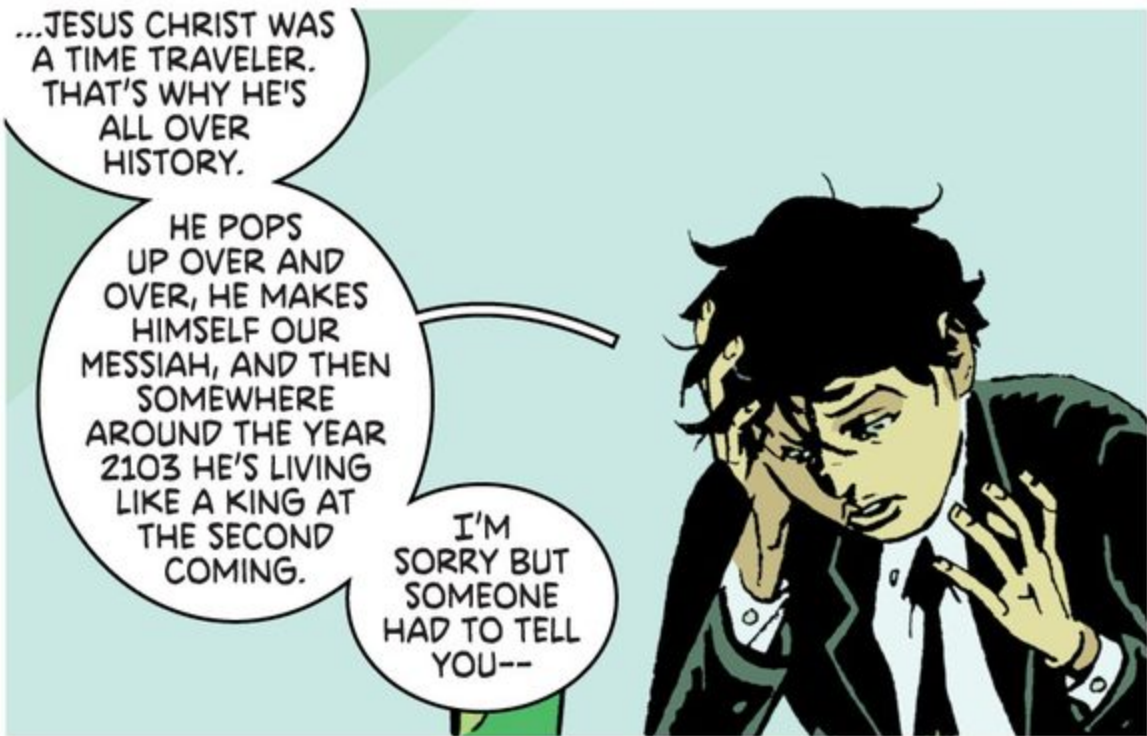
I WORRY
FOR MUM,
BUT SHE'LL
BE RIGHT--

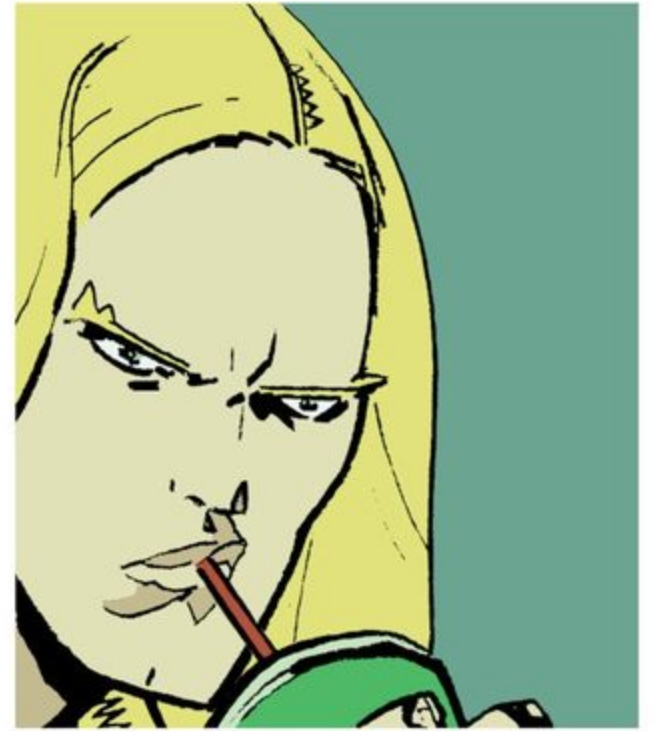


GOOD
TALK,
MATE.













NO ONE IS A FRIEND.
NOTHING I SAY IS REAL.
I'M NOT HERE. MY EYES
ARE OPEN.

STICK TO THE PLAN. IT'S
ALMOST OVER NOW. I'M
ALMOST DONE. THEN I CAN
DISAPPEAR FOR REAL. LEAVE
THEIR WORLD BEHIND.



FIND A COOL
GREEN CORNER
TO WATCH THE
WATER FLOW BY.

MY JOURNALS HAVE BEEN
FULL OF THIS HEARTSICK
COMPLAINING FOR SO
MANY YEARS I DON'T
KNOW WHAT IT WILL TAKE
TO ACTUALLY CHANGE.

BUT NOW THINGS
ARE DIFFERENT.
I'M NOT SEEKING
HAPPINESS
ANYMORE...



...I'M AFTER
SOMETHING
ELSE ENTIRELY.

YOU
HANDLED
THAT
WELL.



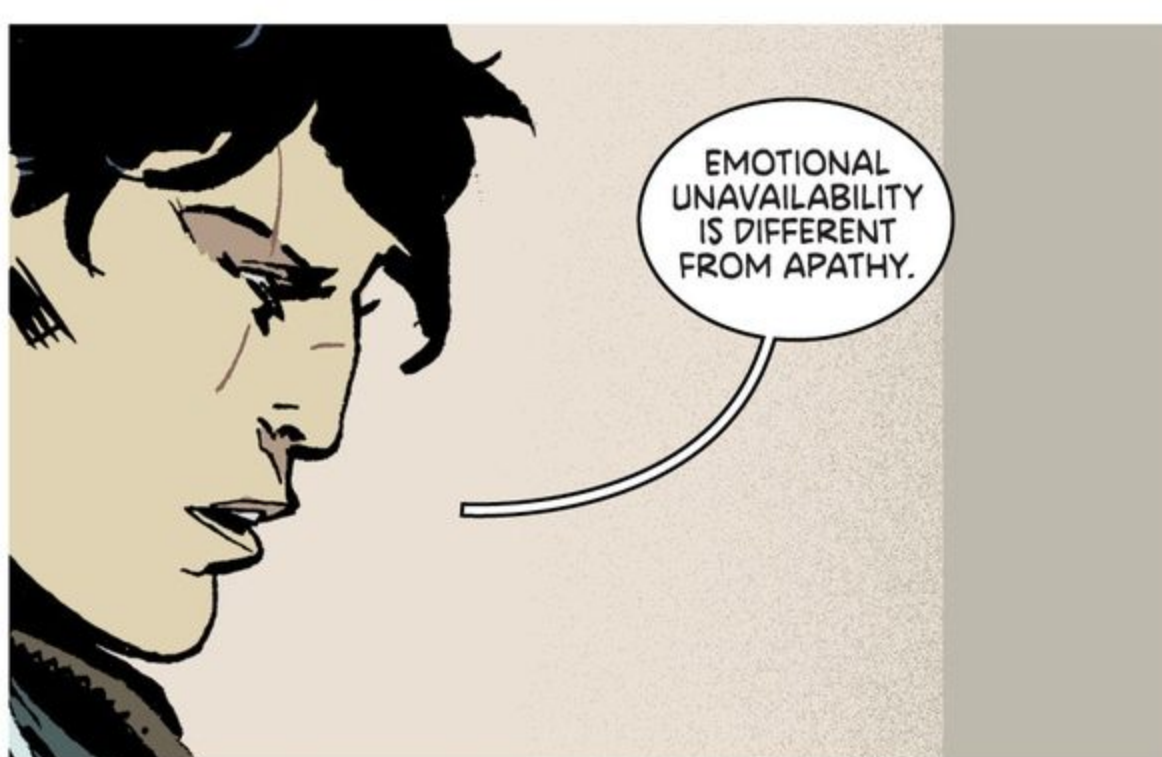
AND SEEING
BRANDY
THROWN IN THE
DITCH WAS
PRETTY
AWESOME.



OF ALL THE DUMB SLANG
OUR GENERATION'S
CREATED, "**AWESOME**" IS
THE MOST IRRITATING
AND OVERUSED.

HUH. MOST
FOLKS DEVISE A
CHARMING
FAÇADE TO HIDE
THE JUDGMENTAL
ASSHOLE IN THEIR
HEADS.

DO YOU
JUST NOT
CARE?



EMOTIONAL
UNAVAILABILITY
IS DIFFERENT
FROM APATHY.



WELL,
"EMOTIONALLY
UNAVAILABLE,"
YOU WANT TO
COME CHILL
TONIGHT?

FWO'S
DOIN' A BIG
OL' PARTY.

GOT
A FRESH
OUNCE OF
ACAPULCO
GOLD...

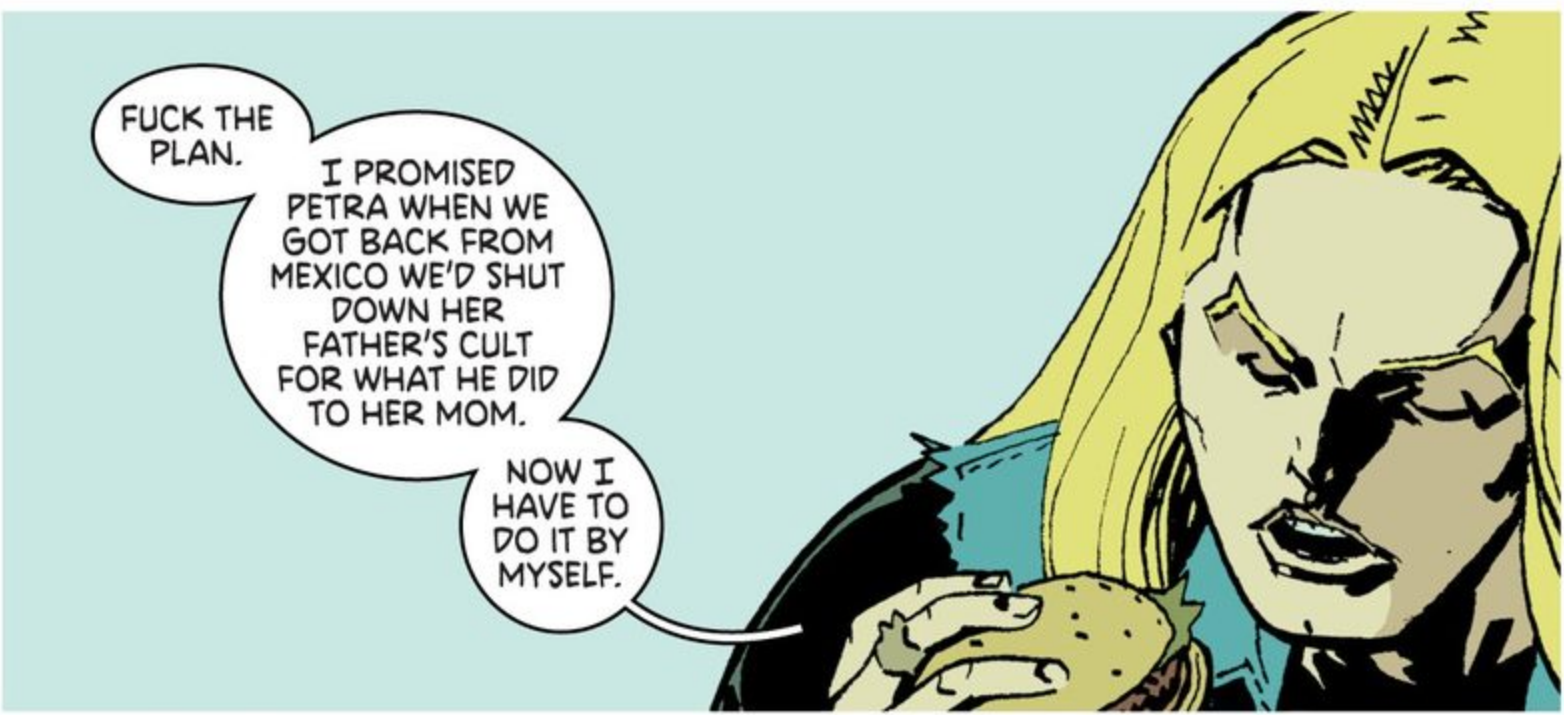


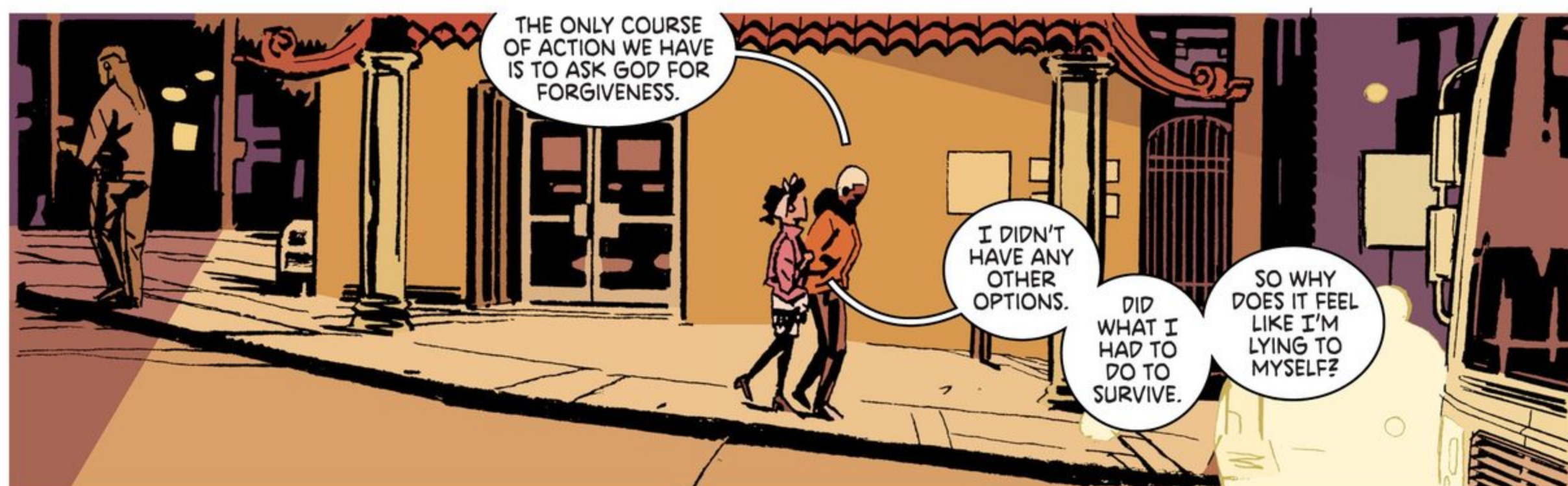
AS IT TURNS
OUT, I FIND MY
DANCE CARD
EMPTY THIS
EVENING.



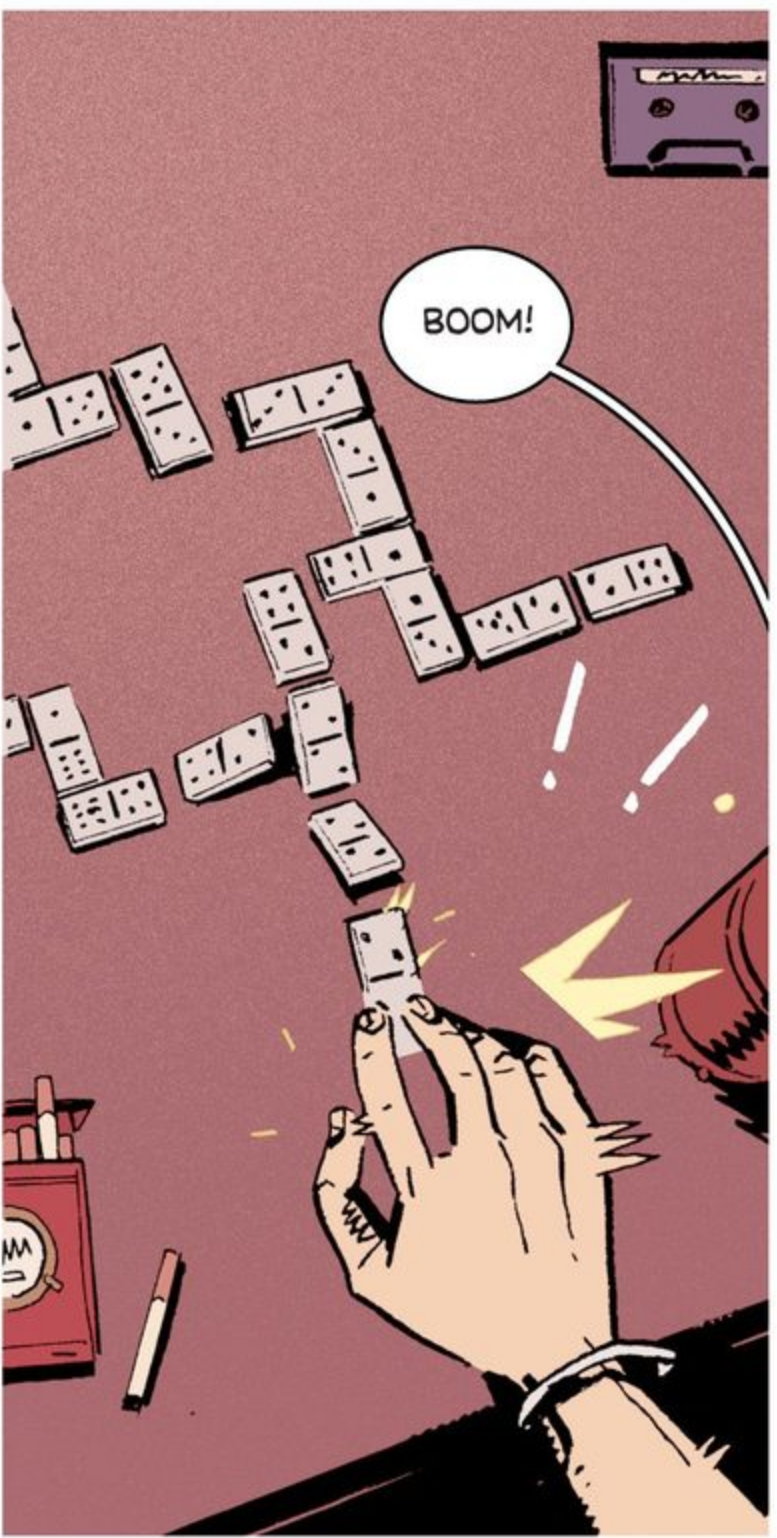
AWESOME.

SEE, YOU'RE
NOT SO
UNAVAILABLE...





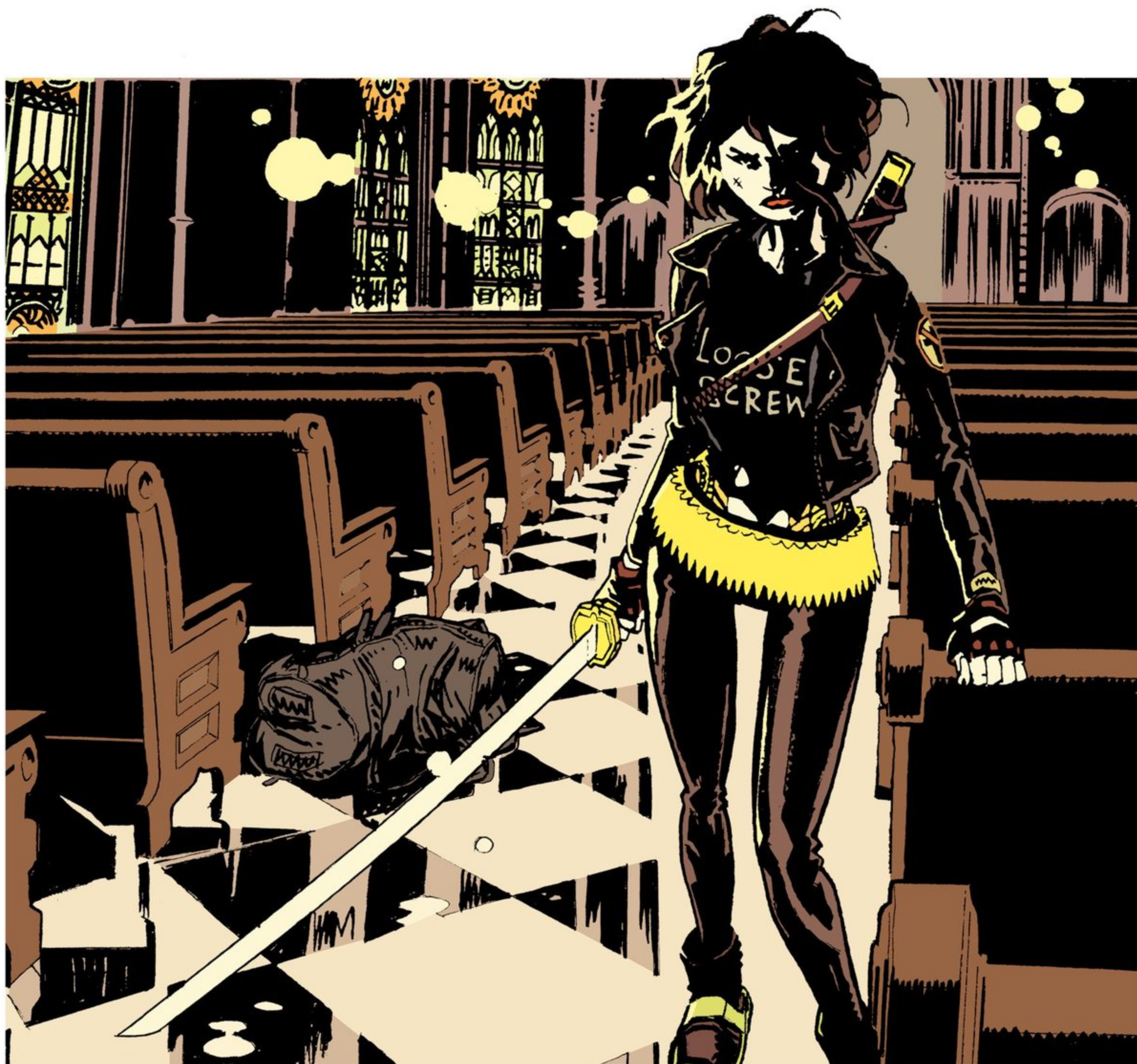


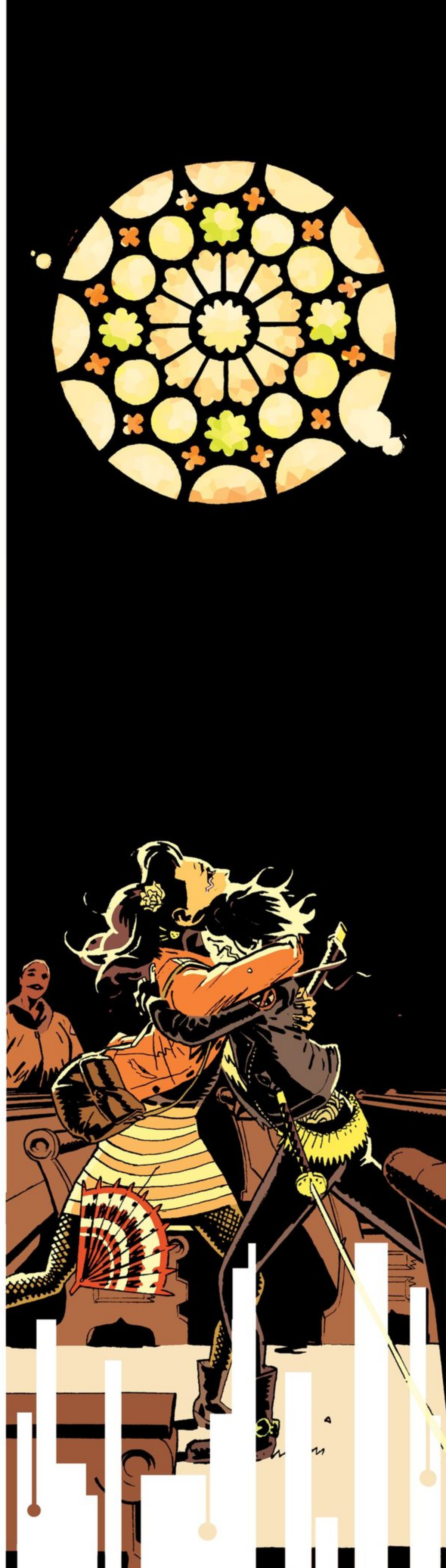












DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Send comments and questions to
WriteRemender@gmail.com!
Mark letters "OK to print".

How are you doing? We haven't caught up in a while. Is your head spinning from all the trouble in the world? I just got through reading the news for a few hours, absorbing all of the horrible truth about kids in cages, economic inequality, climate change horror, microplastics destroying the ecosystem of the oceans, and the fact that life expectancy in the United States has reached pre-World War I levels for the first time, due to despair deaths of working-class Gen Xers. It makes you feel like the only solution is to just not read the news. If you roll it up and smoke it on a daily basis, if it's shot at you via social media every hour, how can there be any other outcome than anxiety and depression?

This is the world we live in, and I think it leads us all into the same state of hopelessness. I've always used Marcus as a character who vocalizes that sadness as honestly as he can. And sometimes I've been told that he's too nihilistic because of it. But to my thinking, Marcus has come to the conclusion that there's more power in expressing honest emotions and thoughts—regardless of how others might perceive you—because ultimately those are the hardest ones to express. And maybe a lot of other people who are feeling and thinking the same things will hear it and identify with it and feel like they're not alone. When you feel like you're not alone, it leads to a sense of community. Community is the thing we all need more than anything now. Not tribalism, but unification, and that's what Marcus is working toward at Kings.

I don't see Marcus as nihilistic. I see him as a disappointed

idealist, an honest reflection of the times he's living in, coming to the same conclusion so many of us come to—that there's nothing to be done about the bad trouble. Or at least that's how he's been in the past. Where we find Marcus now, it sounds like he has a plan. Maybe he thinks he can do something about it...

Hi Rick!

I would just love to say that I'm loving the TV show and the comics so far! I can't wait to see what the future holds for the characters of DEADLY CLASS.

Much love!
-Mia J. Librojo

Thank you! We'll be back from hiatus—i.e., time to catch up—in September.

Hola. I've wanted to write for a very long time, and I finally decided to do it after this issue, the 38th; I loved to see those punk henchkids straight outta Frank Miller's *The Dark Knight* alongside that other guy looking like a member of the Untouchables.

I love the soundtrack, both of them.

I love SYFY and I fuckin' love Image, and I have to say, even though you know it, that yours truly is by far the best comic book adaptation ever. Thank you for all the attention you're paying to the details. I love the way Lin is depicted in the show, and how Gao is the counterpart. I've wanted to do some stuff like that for over a decade, and I'm still searching for the best way to show the

true face of México's violence. I was thinking about how that el pendejo de Chico never knew Latin hip-hop and Chicano rap because he died a few years before *Hispanic Causing Panic* came out.

I wanted to ask you if you like punk in Spanish, or if in the '80s you and your crew knew about some Mexican, Spanish, Argentinian, Chilean, or Peruvian bands, and if so, which ones you prefer. I'd really love some soundtrack en español también.

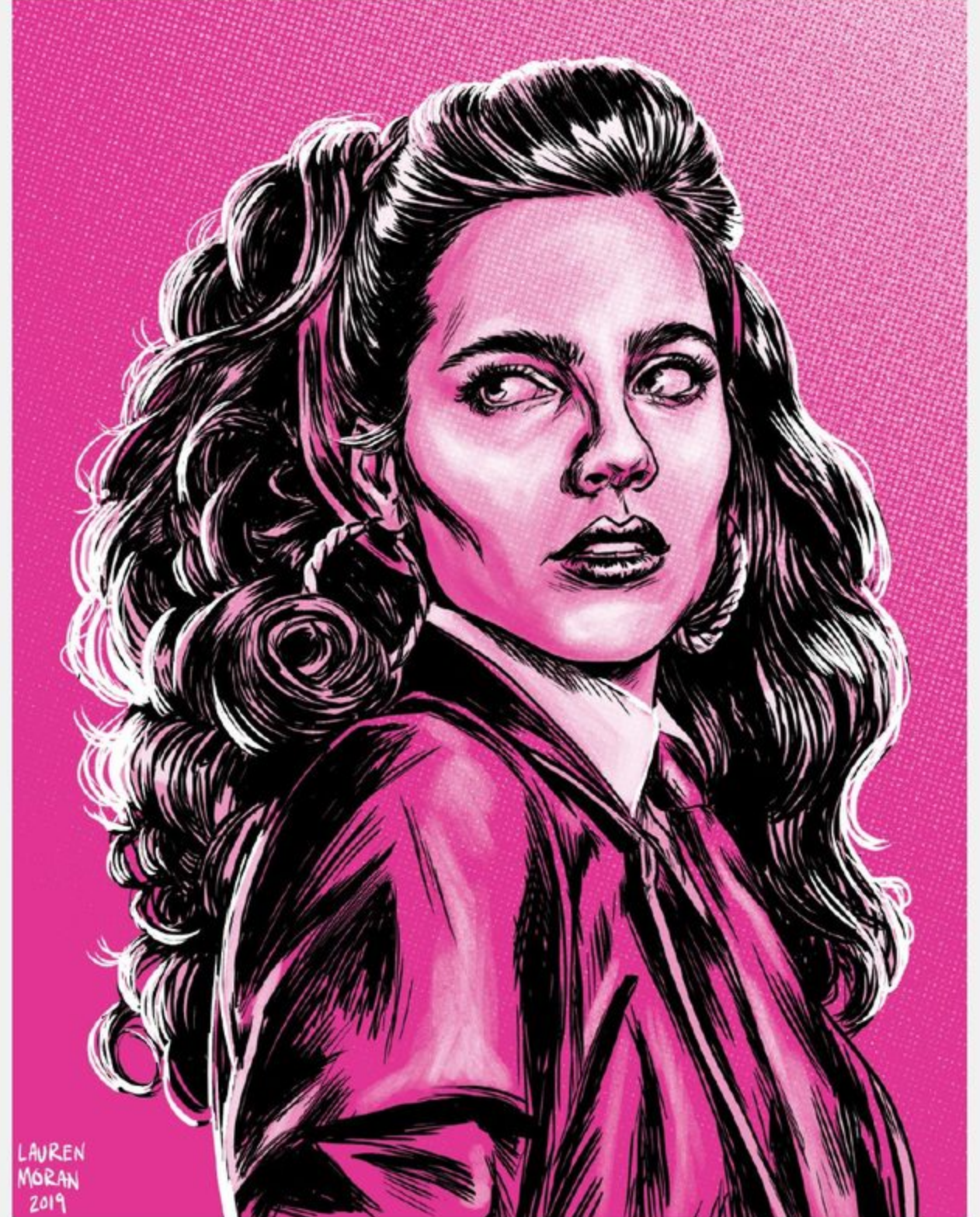
I'll be waiting for the next issue, and with luck I'll see Saya again, or how Marcus and María left the reservation. I love the way you write the characters, the cliffhangers, the name of the arcs. Such a genius homage to the punk culture.

Bueno, I think that's all. Gracias y adiós.

Glad to hear you liked the show. Showrunning is the hardest job I've done by multiple orders of magnitude. About 20 years back, I ran an animation studio in SF where I produced/directed cartoons, so I thought I was somewhat prepared for showrunning—man, that was dumb. It nearly killed me. Just the volume of work and the timeframe to get it all done... gnarly. But, here at the end, I'm so proud of what we made, and the fan base has been so supportive.

I don't know any punk bands from south of the border, but I hear Image's amazing Traffic Manager, Tricia Ramos, has some excellent recommendations.

Hey everyone, Tricia here with a list of some of my favorite Spanish-language punk tracks:



Criaturas, “Arañas”

Los Vigilantes, “Volverá”

Dada Berlin, “Siete/Trece”

Generacion Suicida, “Criminal”

Blystex, “Cuál es la Verdad”

Los Violadores, “Represión”

Downtown Boys, “Monstro”

Yawners, “La Escalera”

Hypnomango, “El Mundo no es Real”

There you have it! Let us know your favorites, too, and I'll get listening.

Hey Rick!

DEADLY CLASS has been my all-time favorite comic since I grabbed the first issue years ago. I'm also a huge fan of LOW and BLACK SCIENCE, but DEADLY CLASS just does something no other comic has done for me.

I cannot even express how much the themes, characters, arcs, and overall message hits so hard that it feels like you're writing it specifically for me. Thank you so much for this story, it came into my life when I truly needed it and the journey you've created has been absolutely incredible.

-Lauren Moran

You are too cool. That is crazy nice to read. Each of my books are cooked from different ingredients and different things I want to write about. I'm glad you found one that speaks to you. It means I haven't been sitting here typing for the past 15 years for nothing. Which is good. Because that idea would depress me. Though it would also reinforce a certain voice in my head...

Thank you all for the huge support for the book and the show. As of today, as of this letters page, I'm caught up on

work for the first time in nearly three years. I don't think I realized what it was doing to me, but it wasn't good. I lost myself in it, and the endless deadlines made for a fairly hopeless outlook; it felt like no matter what I finished, I had years more ahead, and I'd never be caught up. But now I am. For the first time in a long time, I have all that weight off my back. The choice to get back to my roots and work on my own stories meant a lot more work, and I am tired, but it feels like this is where I belong, doing what I was meant to do. And if it fails and all falls apart, well, I'll grab my family, buy an RV, and tour the country. That's my "what if everything caves in around me" plan, anyway. In case you were wondering.

I'm rambling. We'll see you in September for the Sophomore exam in Bone Machine, Part One of Four.

Love you all,
Rick

THE DEADLY ARTS

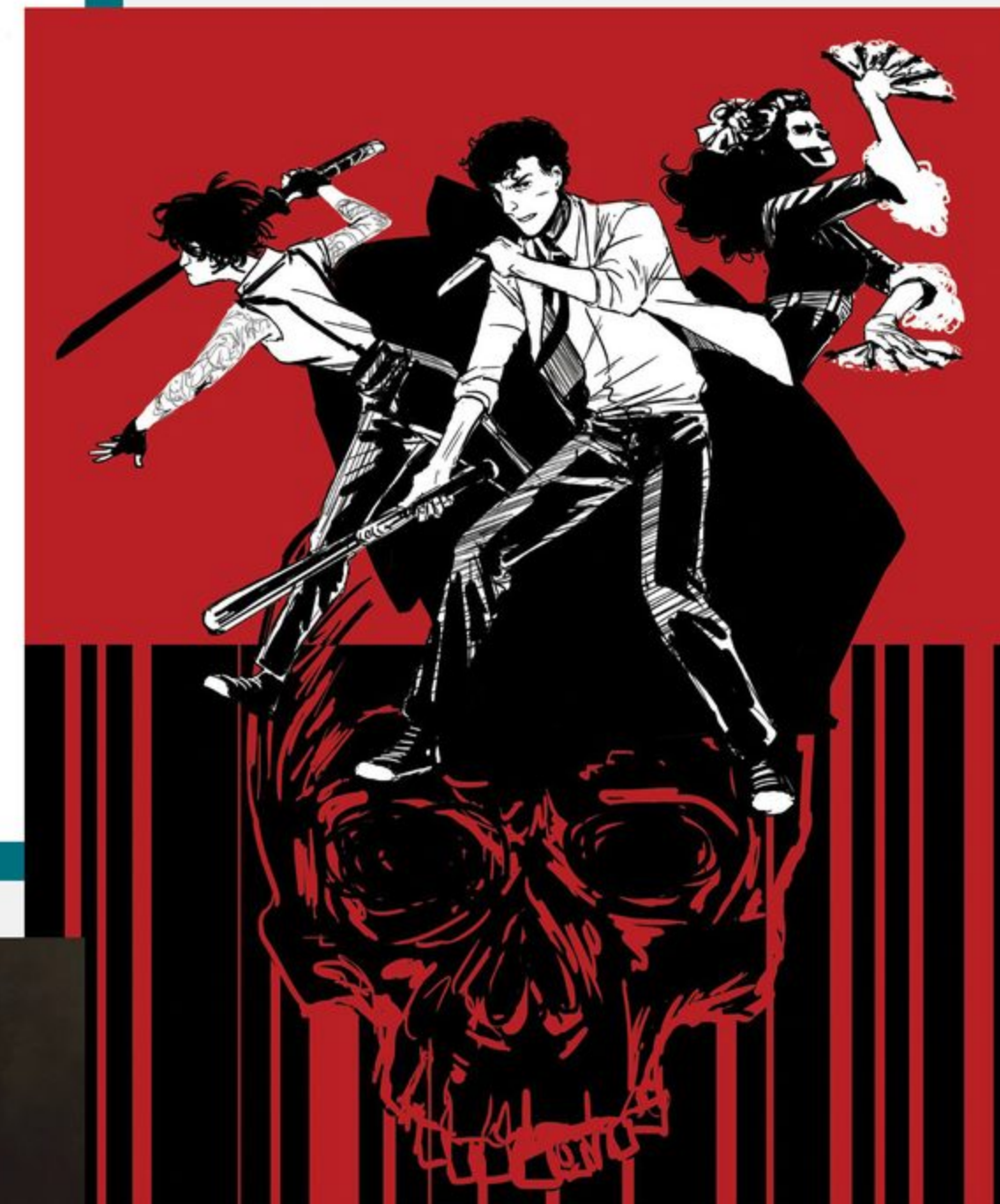
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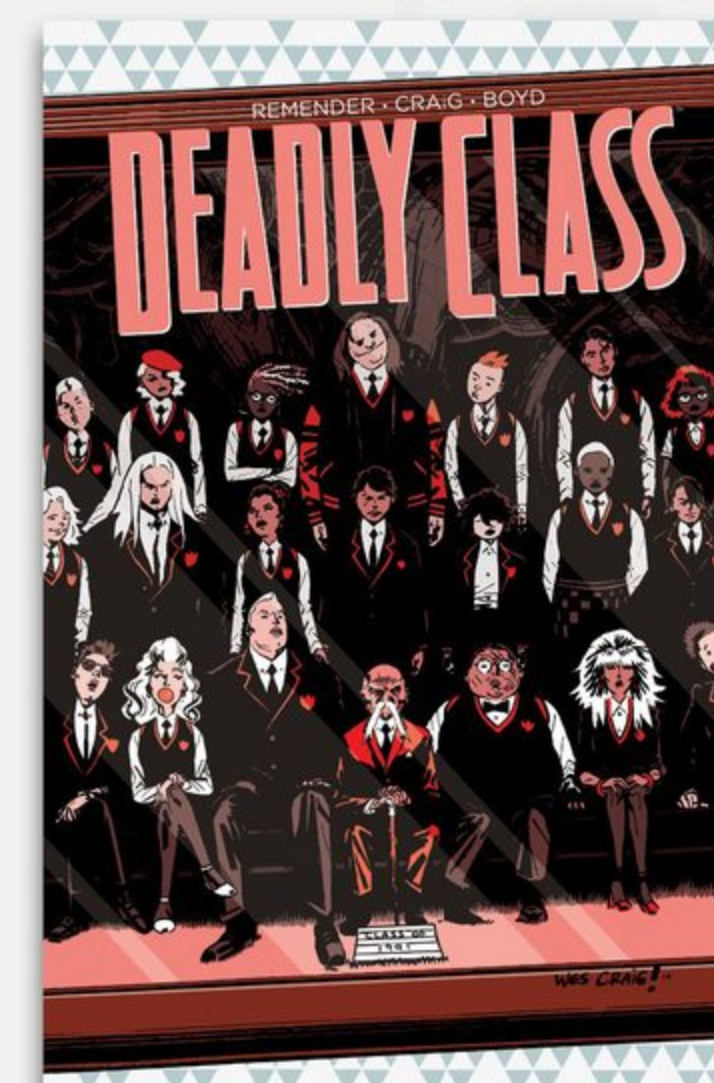


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NEXT ISSUE





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